

Mirador fel Rio (16th April), on a rather cool day, there were some Blues (*P. icarus*) on the low vegetation at the side of the road, but only in small numbers – I saw perhaps twenty or so, mostly males. Later the same day, in some fallow-field site near Maguez – good for several species in 1988 – this year I saw only three Blues.

Altogether, we saw, in different locations, perhaps half a dozen *C. croceus* but nor a single *V. cardui* throughout our visit. However, there were occasional moments of excitement – on the 17th, a Red Admiral settled on the outer wall of our neighbour's villa and sat sunning itself long enough to be clearly identified as *Vanessa indica vulcania* God. Then, on another occasion (25th April) in the dry gully of the Barranca de Manguia (again, a good spot in 1988) there was one (and possibly a second, seen by friends) of what I identified as *Pontia daplidice* Linn. One of these was very kind and perched long enough on a flower stem for me to get quite a decent close-up shot of it on the video camera. However, besides the Whites, all we saw, during an hour walking in the gully, were four *C. croceus* and one *P. icarus*.

All-in-all, it does look as though 1988 was a unique year for the number of butterflies about in Lanzerote. – G.G. BALDWIN, 22 Edgerton Grove Road, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD1 5QX.

***Strangalia maculata* (Poda) var. *gibberdi* nov., (Col.: Cerambycidae)**

During the hot and sultry weather experienced towards the end of June, a small number of *Strangalia maculata* (Poda) were taken in flight and settling on *Heracleum* in a woodland glade adjoining the Gibberd estate: 26.vi.1995, near Sheering, north Essex (Mrs Elizabeth Uthhoff-Kaufmann). They included a small male, clearly maculated as follows:



The anterior band at the elytral margin vestigial, faintly tinted brown; medianly, with three spots forming the apices of an equilateral triangle, slightly tilted towards the elytral suture but not contiguous with it, of which the uppermost is the largest and ovoid. Above this triangulation, placed equi-distantly between the elytral boss and scutellum, is a very distinct micro-maculation. The remaining fasciae are normal as in the type form.

This new variety is named after the late Sir Frederick Gibberd, architect of Harlow New Town.

– RAYMOND R. UTHHOFF-KAUFMANN, 13 Old Road, Old Harlow, Essex CM17 0HB.

Upper half of right-hand elytron of *Strangalia maculata* (Poda) var. *gibberdi* nov.